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# Stream and River Restoration With Emphasis on Fish Habitat Improvement



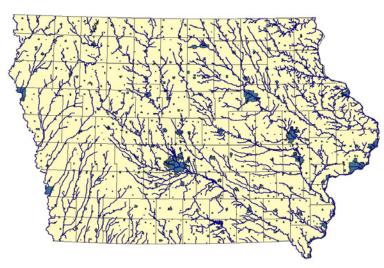
Mike Steuck - Fisheries Bureau Iowa Department of Natural Resources



## Why Stream and River Restoration??

- Diverse and dynamic part of the landscape.
- Environmental Benefits.
- Effects those Downstream.
- There's one in Everybody's Backyard!







## Why Stream and River Restoration??

- Water Quality
  - Reduction in nutrients, sediment and other impairments
  - Clean drinking water
- Habitat A place to live
- Healthy Aquatic Communities
- · Economic development
  - Fishing/hunting/bird watching/canoe/kayaking
  - floating/playing/boating/swimming/hiking
- Everybody benefits!

## Stream and River Restoration:

- Has all the Right Ingredients
- Watershed Work
- Floodplain Connectivity
- Riparian/Grassed Corridor Management
- Streambank Stabilization
- Instream Habitat
- Dam Removal/Modification

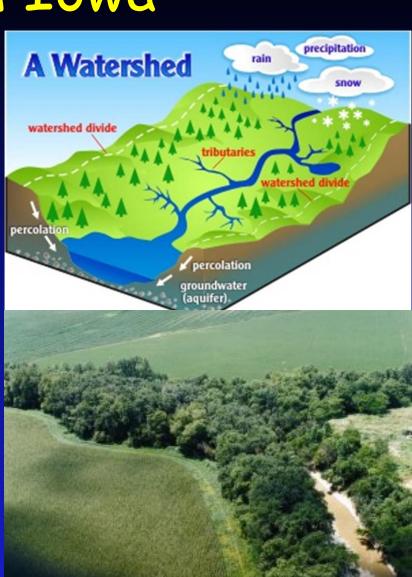




# Components of Quality Streams in Iowa

- Floodplain connection (stream not incised)
- Longitudinal connection (free-flowing)
- Compatible watershed use
- Diversity of substrates
- Diversity of water depths
- Sinusity (not straightened)
- Intact riparian corridor
- Relatively predictable base flow
- Compatible near-stream land-cover







## Factors That Affect Stream Quality

## 1) Factors Beyond the Landowner's Control

- Soil Types
- Topography and Gradient
- Climate
- Geology





### 2) Factors Within the Landowner's Control

- Land-use
- Stream Bank Vegetation Type and Density
- Riparian Corridor Vegetation Type and Density
- Point and Non-Point Inputs of Nutrients
- Channel Modifications and Channel Changes

















- Improved Water Quality.
  - Reduced Nutrients & Sediment





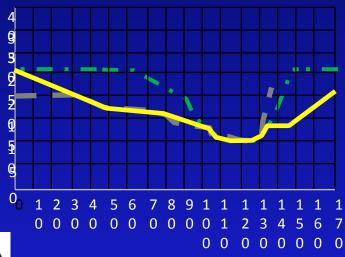


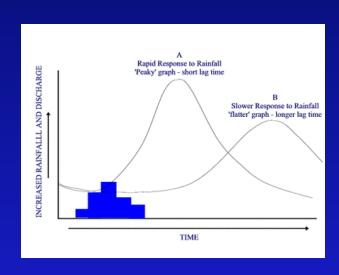
- Improved Habitat.
  - Clean Substrate for Inverts & Spawning
  - Cover for Feeding & Protection





- Reduced Flooding Impacts
  - Dissipates the Water's Energy
  - Flattens out the Peaks
  - Reduces Erosion & Property Damage









- Better Fishing Through Cooperation
  - Natural Reproduction
  - More Fish Available
  - Optimized Stocking









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- Increased Use
- Economic Development- Trout Anglers
  - •Swiss Valley Creek (aka Catfish Creek, Dubuque Co):
    - •2006: Ranked 21st
      - •10,288 trips x \$46.50/trip = \$478,392
    - •2011: Ranked 4<sup>th</sup>
      - •21,212 trips x \$46.50/trip = \$986,358



- •582,851 trips x \$46.50/trip = \$27,102,572
- Other Uses (ISU CARD Survey):
  - >Fishing/hunting/bird watching/canoe/kayaking
  - >floating/playing/boating/swimming/hiking





# Questions??

